GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3703
ANSWERED ON:17.04.2008
BUDDHIST TOURIST CIRCUIT
Vijay Krishna Shri

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to link Buddhist tourist circuit in India with foreign such centres in Japan, Thailand and Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Buddhist hubs in Bihar, Orissa and UP are also proposed to be linked with these countries under the above project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a), (b), (c) & (d): Ministry of Tourism promotes and publicizes all tourist attractions in the country including the Buddhist sites, in major source markets. In addition, a major integrated campaign titled 'Walk with the Buddha' was launched to showcase Buddhist sites in India in the predominantly Buddhist source markets in Far East and South East Asia.

Tourism products including Buddhist hubs in India are also being promoted through bilateral agreements and multilateral forums such as ASEAN (Association of South East Asian Nations), SASEC (South Asia Sub-regional Economic Cooperation), BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi - Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) and SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) through distribution of brochures, posters, Compact Disc Roms and other collateral in the member countries.